TO this effect was received from a Member of Parliament and Department of Food Supply and Consumer Affairs of the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. However, no specific complaint appears to have been received from any card holder.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal under the consideration of NDMC at present. The allotment of the Fair Price Shop as also other shops in the Complex was made on the basis of draw of lots. A petition for shifting the Fair Price Shop from the 1st Floor to the ground floor of the Complex made before the High Court of Delhi was rejected by the Hon'ble Court.

Criterion for Telephone Connection in Village

2760. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a maximum distance of 5 Kms. from the concerned Telephone Exchange has been fixed for providing telephone connections in villages;

(b) whether the criterion is subject to relaxation;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore;

(d) the other criteria fixed in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken for providing tele phone connections to the persons living in remote areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The limit of 5 Kms. radial distance has been prescribed on technical and economic considerations.

(d) and (e) Telephone connections beyond 5 Kms radial distance on beyond local area of exchange system are provided as long distance connections if there is no other exchange to serve such area. Long distance charges are leviable from such connections for the distance beyond 5 Kms radial distance /local area. A new exchange is opened in areas where there is no telephone exchange and there is a minimum registered demand of 10 connections.

Failure in Execution of Garment export Orders

2761. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several garment exporters based in the northen region in the country have failed to execute shipments against the peak season orders meant for sale in the U.S. and Europe during Christian new Year period;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) its impact on the garment industries?

THE MINISTER FOR TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) Garment exporters based in the northern region of the country, in general, have not failed to execute shipments against the peak season orders meant for Christmas sales in the U.S.A. and Europe. However, there may a few exceptions, as is the case with shipments all through the year.

Superfine 'Suvin' Cotton Production by Tamilnadu

2762. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tamilnadu is producing a superfine extra large staple variety of cotton 'Suvin' which is equivalent to Egyptian, Variety 'Giza';

(b) whether it is a fact that there is huge demand in the international market for 'Suvin'; and